

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 4044

By COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, GENERAL GOVERNMENT, AND
VETERANS

February 12

1 Delete lines 4 through 18 of the printed bill and insert:

2 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Environmental Quality shall study risks and issues**
3 **related to earthquake-induced toxic inhalation. The department may use any appropriate**
4 **methodology or methodologies to carry out the study.**

5 **“(2) In carrying out the study, the department shall seek to:**

6 **“(a) Increase understanding of the scale and extent of such hazards by:**

7 **“(A) Identifying areas of concern by looking at geographic areas with the highest seismic**
8 **risk;**

9 **“(B) Identifying highest risk facilities within seismic risk zones, using appropriate crite-**
10 **ria such as the Toxic (Operational) Hazard Score developed by the U.S. Naval Research**
11 **Laboratory; and**

12 **“(C) Reporting on the statewide number of facilities of concern and their geographic**
13 **distribution, along with any relevant findings from this inquiry;**

14 **“(b) By modeling various scenarios, increase understanding of the potential impact on**
15 **immediate areas, workers and surrounding populations in the event of uncontrolled release**
16 **of hazardous material from identified facilities resulting from an earthquake, including de-**
17 **veloping information on the following:**

18 **“(A) Projected paths of movement of hazardous material and the severity of its effects,**
19 **as may vary according to region, season and other conditions;**

20 **“(B) Proximity of facilities of concern to populations who would be most at risk from an**
21 **uncontrolled release, and estimated total population who would be most at risk;**

22 **“(C) Where possible using publicly available information, demographic analysis of the**
23 **impacted populations most at risk using an environmental justice analysis; and**

24 **“(D) Where possible using publicly available information, estimates on probability of un-**
25 **controlled release of hazardous material based on a facility’s current state of seismic read-**
26 **iness; and**

27 **“(c) Increase understanding of possible solutions to such hazards by:**

28 **“(A) Completing a policy review of seismic requirements and mitigation programs in**
29 **other jurisdictions that address earthquake-induced toxic inhalation; and**

30 **“(B) Completing a literature review of mitigation solutions and obtaining an engineering**
31 **review of such solutions.**

32 **“(3) The department may consult, partner or contract with any appropriate entity in**
33 **carrying out the study. The department and other involved entities may consult with state**
34 **agencies to define the scope of high-risk facilities for purposes of the study.**

35 **“(4) On or before December 1, 2024, the department shall submit a report on the findings**

1 of the study to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to emergency
2 management.

3 “(5) On or before March 1, 2025, the department may submit recommendations for legis-
4 lation to the standing or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to emer-
5 gency management.

6 “SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2024 Act is repealed on January 2, 2026.

7 “SECTION 3. This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
8 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect
9 on its passage.”.

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